

Tennessee Ethics Commission
December 16, 2014
Minutes

The Tennessee Ethics Commission met on Tuesday, December 16, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. at the Bureau of Ethics and Campaign Finance office. Members present were: Greg Hardeman, George Jaynes, Jim Stranch, Charles Traugher, and Tammy White. Mr. Stranch served as chair and called the meeting to order.

September 17, 2014 Minutes

Mr. Jaynes made the motion to approve the September 17, 2014 minutes. Mr. Hardeman seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Requests for Reconsideration

Carroll Cate – 2013-095

Charles Nelson – 2014-209

Derick Williams – 2014-220

Larry Lawhon – 2014-110

Mike Smith – 2014-215

Mr. Cates had previously submitted a written request for reconsideration, which was denied at the September 17, 2014 meeting because he had not filed the Statement of Interests. The Commission received his Statement on September 18, 2014, and placed the reconsideration on the next meeting agenda because it had been postmarked before the date of the Commission meeting. Ms. White made the motion to waive the \$10,000 assessment and Mr. Jaynes seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Nelson submitted a written request for reconsideration of the \$1,000 assessment. Mr. Jaynes made the motion to waive the assessment and Ms. White seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Williams submitted a written request for reconsideration of the \$1,000 assessment. Ms. White made the motion to deny reconsideration and Mr. Hardeman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Lawhon had previously submitted a request for reconsideration but the reconsideration was deferred to give Mr. Lawhon the opportunity to file the Statement of Interests, which he filed in October. Mr. Hardeman made the motion to waive the \$1,000 assessment and Mr. Jaynes seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Smith submitted a written request for reconsideration of the \$1,000 assessment. Mr. Hardeman made the motion to waive the assessment and Ms. White seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Informal Civil Penalty Assessments – Local Candidates

Mick Robinson – 2014-242

Danny Gant – 2014-256

Roberta “Sissy” Allen – 2014-243

Ms. White made the motion to take no action on the above filers who were 2 to 5 penalty days late. Mr. Traughber seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Rick Chinn – 2014-244

Ms. White made the motion to assess a \$25 civil penalty on the above filers and Mr. Jaynes seconded. The motion passed 5-0. After more discussion, Ms. White made the motion to withdraw her previous motion and Mr. Traughber seconded. The motion passed 5-0. Ms. White then made the motion to assess no penalty. Mr. Traughber seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Kevin Brent Allen – 2014-200

Mr. Hardeman made the motion to take no action on the above filer who was 127 penalty days late. Mr. Jaynes seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Patsy Writesman – 2014-247

Ms. White made the motion to take no action on the above filer who was 129 penalty days late. Mr. Jaynes seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Kemario Davis – 2014-245

Michael Ingram – 2014-228

Aubrey Keith Wilhoite – 2014-248

Jeff Dusty Rhodes – 2014-229

Dennis R. Hinch – 2014-227

Mr. Hinch submitted his Statement of Interest on December 12, 2014 (153 penalty days late) and a statement explaining the tardiness of filing. The above filers did not file the Statement of Interests. Mr. Hardeman made the motion to assess a \$1,000 civil penalty against each filer and Mr. Traughber seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Informal Civil Penalty Assessments – State Candidates

Mwafaq Aljabbarry – 2014-250

Edward Leon Buck – 2014-251

Robert F. Dunham – 2014-252

Kennedy Spellman Johnson – 2014-253

Quincy McKnight – 2014-254

Mr. Traughber made the motion to assess a \$1,000 civil penalty against the above candidates who did not file a Statement of Interests. Ms. White seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Informal Civil Penalty Assessment – Local Office Holder

Thomas Hunter -2014-249

Mr. Hunter submitted a statement and appeared before the Commission to explain why his Statement of Interests was not timely filed. Mr. Hardeman made the motion to take no action and Mr. Jaynes seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Informal Civil Penalty Assessments – Employers of Lobbyists

Tennessee Wildlife Federation – 2014-232

The Tennessee Wildlife Federation submitted a statement explaining why the expenditure report was filed 8 penalty days late. Mr. Hardeman made the motion to take no action and Mr. Traugher seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Southeastern Emergency Physicians – 2014-233

Southeastern Emergency Physicians submitted a statement explaining why the expenditure report was filed 9 penalty days late. Mr. Jaynes made the motion to take no action and Mr. Traugher seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Hudson Construction – 2014-234

Hudson Construction submitted a statement explaining why the expenditure report was filed over 30 penalty days late. Ms. White made the motion to take no action and Mr. Hardeman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

LeConte Village – 2014-238

LeConte Village submitted a statement explaining why the expenditure report was filed over 30 penalty days late. Mr. Jaynes made the motion to take no action and Mr. Hardeman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Curriculum Advantage – 2014-237

Mr. Hardeman made the motion to assess a \$50 civil penalty for late filing of the expenditure report (over 30 penalty days late). Ms. White seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

TN Association of Broadcasters – 2014-240

Rocketship Education – 2014-239

Both employers of lobbyists submitted statements explaining the late filing of the expenditure reports (both over 30 penalty days late). Mr. Traugher made the motion to take no action and Ms. White seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

A-1 Interlocks, Inc. – 2014-235

Ms. White made the motion to assess a \$50 civil penalty based on the fact that the expenditure report was filed over 30 penalty days late and A-1 Interlocks had previous assessments. Mr. Hardeman seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Campbell Transportation Co., Inc. – 2014-236

Ms. White made the motion to assess a \$750 civil penalty because the expenditure report was not filed. Mr. Hardeman seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

TN Men's Health Network, Inc. – 2014-241

Mr. Hardeman made the motion to assess a \$750 civil penalty because the expenditure report was not filed and the TN Men's Health Network had previous assessments. Ms. White seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Other Business

There being no other business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned.